

AVIATION SAFETY PROGRAM 8320
(Revised September 2001)

GENERAL 8321
(Revised September 2001)

PURPOSE 8321.1
(Revised September 2001)

The primary purpose of the CDF aviation safety program is to prevent injury or loss of life, to minimize destruction or damage of equipment, and to protect property.

SCOPE 8321.2
(Revised September 2001)

The Aviation Safety Program encompasses all activities related to maintaining the safety of all department and contract aircraft, air operations and personnel, aviation maintenance activities and support facilities administered by CDF.

PHILOSOPHY 8321.3
(Revised September 2001)

Aerial fire fighting and its related activities are by their nature some of the most dangerous types of flying conducted in today's aviation community. Although there is a certain amount of risk associated with this type of aviation activity it can still be done in an environment that minimizes these risks. This can be done through education, meaningful training, consistent standards, individual and organizational discipline and the willingness at all levels of CDF to take the lead in safety. We must constantly ask ourselves: "How can we do it safely?" and "Do the results justify the risk?" Before risks are taken, it should be done with full knowledge of the situation and an objective evaluation of the alternatives available. Manage your risks. this is the sign of a true professional. Aerial fire fighting is not an emergency to us, it is our job.

RESPONSIBILITIES 8321.4
(Revised September 2001)

It is the responsibility of all personnel for implementing the department's aviation safety program. The Aviation Safety Officer may administer the Aviation Safety Program but it is the managers, supervisors and individual fire fighters that must take the lead in making safety part of CDF's everyday work habit. The following positions however have specific aviation safety responsibilities that need identifying:

The Aviation Safety Officer (ASO) shall be responsible to administer the department's Aviation Safety Program. The ASO shall advise and consult all department personnel regarding matters relating to aviation safety and shall determine courses of action and make recommendations to management.

The Helibase and Air Attack Base Managers are specifically held responsible for the safe operation and management of all aircraft at their assigned bases.

The Aircraft Pilot-in-Command has final authority for the safe operation of an aircraft.

The Air Tactical Group Supervisors are responsible for the safety of all air operations at the incident site as well as flight routes to and from the fire.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

8321.5

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The CDF aviation safety program consists of two major elements: accident prevention and accident/incident investigation. Prevention is the most important and encompasses most program activities such as:

- Accident Prevention
- Aviation Safety Training and Information
- Accident/Incident Investigation
- Monitoring of Flight Training and Standards
- Safety Assistance and Inspections
- Annual Reporting on Aviation Safety
- Aviation Ground Support Safety
- Aviation Life Support Equipment
- Hazard Identification and Elimination
- Within prevention is aviation operational hazard identification and elimination.

[\(see next section\)](#)

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[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)